

# Sierra Leone

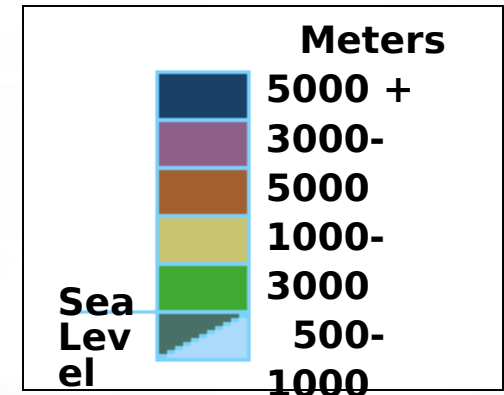


- Civil War
- One of the wettest countries in West Africa

# Sierra Leone : Environmental Issues

- Topography
- Climate

**Climate**  
tropical; hot,  
humid;  
summer rainy  
season (May  
to  
December);  
winter dry  
season  
(December to  
April)



**Terrain:** coastal belt  
of mangroveswamps,  
wooded hill country,  
upland plateau,  
mountains in east

**Lowest point:** Atlantic Ocean 0 m

**Highest point:** Loma Mansa  
(Bintimani)

1,948 m

The background of the slide is a faded American flag, showing the stars and stripes. The title is enclosed in a red-bordered box.

# Sierra Leone: Environmental Issues

- Air
  - Low risk
  - Some pollution near specific industrial and urban areas.
- Soil
  - Low risk but should be avoided when possible.
  - Soil contamination near industrial facilities and waste disposal sites.
  - Significant exposure unlikely in the absence of wind, active digging, or leakage into ground water.

The background of the slide is a close-up, slightly blurred image of the American flag, showing the stars and stripes. The title is centered in a white box with a thin red border.

# Sierra Leone: Environmental Issues

- Food
  - Microbial and chemical contamination of local agricultural products.
  - Food may also be contaminated with industrial particulates, chemicals from soil, pesticides, fertilizers, and fecal pathogens.
- Water
  - Most water contaminated with raw sewage.
  - Other water sources may be contaminated with microbial and chemical contaminants.
  - Water sources near mining areas may be contaminated with arsenic and other chemical wastes.
  - Agriculture industry can cause water contamination with nitrates.

The background of the slide is a close-up, slightly blurred image of the United States flag, showing the stars and stripes. The stars are white on a blue field, and the stripes are red and white.

# Sierra Leone: Environmental Issues

- Greatest short-term environmental health risks
  - Water contaminated with raw sewage
  - Runoff containing fecal pathogens,
  - Environmental contamination
- Greatest long-term environmental health risks.
  - Environmental contamination.



# Sierra Leone: Diseases of Operational Importance

- **Highest risk** country
- Diseases of greatest risk
  - Food and Waterborne Diseases: Bacterial diarrhea, Hepatitis A, Protozoal diarrhea and Typhoid/paratyphoid fever
  - Vector-borne Diseases: Malaria and Yellow fever.
  - Sexually Transmitted Diseases: HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis B.
  - Soil Contact Diseases: Lassa Fever
  - Water-contact Diseases: Schistosomiasis

# Sierra Leone: Diseases of Operational Importance

- Diseases of potential risk
  - Food and waterborne Diseases: Brucellosis, Cholera, Hepatitis E
  - Vector-borne Diseases: Boutonneuse fever (Mediterranean spotted fever), Chikungunya, Crimean-Congo hemorrhagic fever, Dengue fever, Leishmaniasis, Rift Valley fever, Sindbis (Ockelbo) virus, Gambiense trypanosomiasis (African), Murine typhus (flea-borne) and West Nile fever
  - Sexually Transmitted Diseases: Gonorrhea and Chlamydia.
  - Water-contact Diseases: Leptospirosis
  - Respiratory Diseases: Meningococcal meningitis and Tuberculosis
  - Animal-contact: Anthrax, Q-Fever and Rabies